Statement regarding jobless rate at 15-month high:

"While Mississippi has experienced job losses because of NAFTA and the national recession, we are in a better overall situation than most states. Governor Musgrove continues to focus on creating new jobs and expanding facilities across Mississippi. Over the past three years we have created over 53,000 good paying quality jobs, and opened over 2,200 new and expanded facilities. We're creating an average of 294 new jobs a week. Education continues to remain a key component in this work, because good schools attract good jobs."